

## SUSTAINABLE LONGPORT

The Borough of Longport has joined the Sustainable Jersey program and is working towards certification in this program. Sustainable Jersey is a nonprofit organization that provides tools, training and financial incentives to support communities as they pursue sustainability programs. By supporting community efforts to reduce waste, cut greenhouse gas emissions, and improve environmental equity, Sustainable Jersey is empowering communities to build a better world for future generations.

Towards that end, the borough recently created a local Green Team Advisory Committee comprised of local residents, officials and municipal employees. The team, Sustainable Longport, has undertaken the mission to educate residents and visitors of the borough's efforts to protect and conserve our natural resources, reduce waste, conserve energy and leave a better tomorrow for future generations to enjoy.

The Green Team Advisory Committee members include:

- 1. Mayor Nicholas Russo, Ed.D.
- 2. Bruce Funk, Zoning Official/Emergency Management Official
- 3. William Trinkle, Public Works Supervisor
- 4. Chris Berenotto, Assistant Public Works Supervisor
- 5. Richard Hirsch, Building Supervisor and MEL-JIF Official
- 6. Monica Kyle, Deputy Municipal Clerk
- 7. Kelly Agnellini, Longport Resident
- 8. Debra Dombrowski, Longport Resident
- 9. Debbie Kelly, Longport Resident
- 10. Suzy Lawler, Longport Resident
- 11. Patricia Murphy, Longport Resident
- 12. Connie Pappas, Longport Resident
- 13. James Ulmer, Longport Resident
- 14. John Bonino, Vice Chair, Surfrider Foundation South Jersey
- 15. Monica Coffey, Communications Manager, Atlantic County Utilities Authority

## Recent initiatives include:

- Reducing the use of single use plastic bags and encouraging the use of reusable, cloth-type bags. As a coastal community, protecting beaches and the ocean from litter is a top priority.
- Conserving paper by changing the borough's quarterly newsletter from paper print to a digital format.
- Keeping expired and/or no-longer needed medical prescriptions out of our waste and water stream by applying for a medical prescription drop-off box.
- Working on creating a local community garden.
- Evaluating new ways to implement measures to encourage recycling in the borough.
- Evaluating new ways to conserve resources and implement environmentally friendly policies in municipal buildings.

## Upcoming events include:

• Sustainable Longport is planning on hosting a film event where it will show *Bag It: Is Your Life Too Plastic?*, a 2010 American <u>documentary film</u> exposing the effects of <u>plastic bags</u> and other plastic consumer merchandise, and its effects on land <u>ecosystems</u>, the <u>marine environment</u> and the human body. STAY TUNED FOR DETAILS.

For more information on how to protect natural resources please visit: <a href="http://www.sustainable.org/environment">http://www.sustainable.org/environment</a>.

For tips on how to reduce waste please visit: www.reduce.org.

For ideas on how to conserve energy please visit: http://energy.gov/energysaver/energy-saver.

For more information on the Sustainable Jersey Program please visit <u>www.sustainablejersey.com</u>

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer or in more information, please email <u>building@longport-nj.us</u> or call 609.823.2731 ext. 109.